NEWS



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Frank O'Bannon, Governor Craig E. Hartzer, Commissioner

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Unemployment benefits available for some Hoosier Flood Victims

Governor Frank O'Bannon announced today that workers in nine Indiana counties will be eligible for special Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) benefits due to severe storms, tornadoes and flooding in April and May. Indiana counties include Dubois, Gibson, Hamilton, Marion, Martin, Pike, Posey, Sullivan and Vigo.

O'Bannon requested a disaster declaration for these and several other counties in Indiana in a letter to the president June 5 after several days of slow-moving thunderstorms dropped enough rain to cause flood conditions and flash flooding in some areas.

Hoosiers farmers, some self-employed, and other workers whose jobs were affected as a direct result of the flooding from April 28 through June 7 may be eligible. Benefits will be determined based on applicants' income and could range from \$125 to \$336 weekly.

Interested claimants must call the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) toll-free number (1-800-621-3362) to receive a registration number, then apply for benefits at their local WorkOne. All applications must be received by August 12, 2002, and claimants must provide earnings information from their 2001 federal tax return. To find the WorkOne office nearest you call 1-888-WORKONE or log on to the Department of Workforce Development web site at www.workforce.IN.gov.